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WASHINGTON, D. C.

FOR THE NATIONAL ERA. SHERWOOD FOREST.

WAGER BY BATTLE. a Tale of Saxon Slavery in the Twelfth Century. BY HENRY WILLIAM HERBERT.

CHAP. XXII. Wager by Battle.

Torn role they together full right.
With sharpe speares and swordes bright;
They smote together sore.
They spent speares and brake shields;
They pounsed as towl in the fields;
Either foamed as doth a hoar.
Sie Triamour.

The fatal third day had come about, and

with it all the dreadful preparations for the ju-

With what had passed in the long interval, withhood, by the sword of the Earl Mareschal, in order to enable him to meet the apelse on equal terms, was appointed, with the the appellant-whether, I say, the young doubted, and wished he had in unblemished name, I know not. If he did, t was a human hesitation, and one which had not dishonored the bravest man who ever died

myself will gird the sword upon your cruelty, and iron firmness—altogether a sordid when she thought of the bloody strife vulturine type of man.

The fight seemed ended by that single blow; and, despite the injunction of the herald, and which two must engage, but whence one only di come forth alive; when she thought of sed escutcheon; of the dishonored whether she never wept, and trembled, ight, when she appeared from her lodging on ere going to a coronation, rather than to the much in the voice of a man. wful trial that should seal her every hope on

ry, who imagine that, because in the tilt, the morning?" ing with tapestries and glittering with the lip on the crucifix-

out the barrier, a huge black gibbet, a on him to repeat them. k, with the broad axe, the disembowelling cial combat never lacked spectaspectators themselves, in lieu of the friend or favorer of the appellant ed right hand, they again sworeaffected to wear white, in token of The appellant, "My uttermost will I do, and innocence, with a belt or kerchief more than my uttermost, if it may be, to slay vast concourse. its worn by the favored party.

ble and mareschal, and the rees of the field, and doomsters ed in that strife which must th and infamy to one or other of the

occapied by a well-dressed crowd; mes to the place were filled, choked, every house that commanded a century of Norman dominion, reat was the interest created by the

he shadow was cast upon the dial,

astle gates rolled open on their hinges, arsh thunder; and forth came a proud

But mournfully and slow:

In the gray square turnet swinging.

With a deep sound to and fro.

Heavily to the heart they go.

Hark! the hynn is singing—

The song for the dead below,

Or the living who shortly shall be so;

For a departing being's soul

The death hymn peals, and the hallow bells knoll.

The death hymn peals, and the hallow bells knoll.

While those bells were yet tolling, and before the echoes of the last stroke of ten had died away, two barefooted friars entered the lists, one at either end, each carrying a Bible and a crucifix; and at the same moment the two champions were seen advancing, each to his own end of the lists, accompanied by his sureties or godfathers, all armed in complete suits of chain mail; Sir Aradas as appellant, entering at the east, Sir Foulke at the left, end of the enclosure.

Here they were met each by one of the friars, the constable and mareschal riding close up to the barriers, to hear the plighting of their oaths. And at this moment, the eyes of all the multitude were riveted on the forms of the two adversaries, and every judgment was on the stretch

It was seen at a glance that Sir Foulke merel honors, were staked on the event, it is and the great volume of his humeral muscles gave him the appearance of being round-back-gave him the appearance of being round-back-ed; but he was deep-chested, and long-armed; and, though his hips were thick and heavy, and Aradas de Ratcliffe, invested with the his legs slightly bowed-perhaps in consequence then spars and consecrated with the order of of his almost living on horseback-it was evi dent that he was a man of gigantic strength, impaired neither by excess nor age, for he did not seem to be more than in his fortieth year. Sir Aradas de Ratcilffe, on the contrary, was seprent of the court of chivalry, champion nearly three inches taller than his opponent, and proportionally longer in the reach; but altogether he was built more on the model of an Antinous than a Hercules. If he was not very some fairer opportunity, when he might broad in the shoulders, he was singularly deep in the golden spurs without the fearful risk of and round in the chest, and remarkable for the ring a shameful death, and tarnishing forever arched hollow of his back and the thinness of his flanks. His arms and legs were irreproachable, and, all in all, he trod the firm earth with

" A station like the herald Mercury, New-lighted on a heaven-kissing hill."

But it was from the features of the two men

the should dash her foot against a stone, or and colorless, with huge over-lapping brows piece to atoms, leaving only a portion of the the shading his small, keen eyes, with a pent-house cervelleire covering the nape of the neck, and llow on her damask cheek too rudely—whether of grizzly bristles, large pendant cheeks, a sinist the beaver supporting the mail tippet, which he never repented that she had told him, "for ter hooked nose, and a mouth indicative of lust, still protected his throat and neck.

wulturine type of man.

The features of Aradas, on the contrary, were clean, clear, fleshless, and finely marked; a broad, smooth forehead, straight-cut black eyebrows, well-opened hazel eyes, with a tawny flash when excited, like to that of a lion or an eagle, a nose slightly aquiline, and a mouth eagle eagle, a nose slightly aquiline, and a mouth eagle eagle, a nose slightly aquiline, and a mouth eagle eagle, a nose slightly aquiline, and a mouth eagle eagle, a nose slightly aquiline, and a mouth eagle eagle, a nose slightly aquiline, and a mouth eagle eagle, a nose slightly aquiline, and a mouth eagle eagle, a nose slightly aquiline, and a mouth eagle eagle, a nose slightly aquiline, and a mouth eagle eagle, a nose slightly aquiline, and a mouth eagle eagle, a nose slightly aquiline, and a mouth eagle eagle, a nose slightly aquiline, and a mouth eagle eagle, a nose slightly eagle eagle, a nose slightly eagle eagle eagle, a nose slightly eagle eag eagle, a nose slightly aquiline, and a mouth of that terribly lascinging section.

But there was it shown what might there is not less than woman. But on the state of the sta face was pale as ivory, and her eyes wore look at him and his opponent, without think- For, leaping and bounding round the heavy face was pale as loors, and her eyes word ing instinctively of the gallant heaven-aspiring giant, like a sword player, letting him waste his

of that Parian marble which their com-the lower classes on the field there were heavy nost resembled, and her gait and bets pending on the issue, and the critical d'Oilly, too, would be unhelmed in a few more judges of those days believed that there was moments.

friar, who encountered him with the question, they roared. No heralds, no pursuivants, no men at arms, could control them. The soul of

who imagine that, because in the tilt, the arnament, the joust, and the carrousel, all was mp and splender, music and minstrelsy, and litary glory, largesse of heralds and love of lies, los on earth and fame immortal after loss. The thing must be loss of large states are loss of large states. The thing must be loss of large states are loss of large states are loss of large states. The thing must be loss of large states are loss of large states. The thing must be loss of large states are loss of large states are loss of large states. The thing must be loss of large states are loss of large states are loss of large states. The thing must be loss of large states are loss of large states are loss of large states.

"Do you hereby swear that your former an- bare-headed, bare-throated, unarmed to the aded with ladies, a galaxy of beauty in its swers and allegations are all true; that you shoulders.

Shoulders.

But the their armorial tabards, no spirit-thrilling court; that you have no charms about you; that you place your whole trust in God, in the shivered to the hilt; and what should he do but, instead of this, a goodness of your cause, and in your own prow-

bare piles, rudely fashioned with the hatchet; an entrance at either end, by men-at-arms, and at one angle, just obscurely uttered, that the constable called

But Sir Aradas raised his head, and looked and all the hideous paraphernalia of the about him with a frank and princely air. "I hereby swear," he said, "that which I swore thereby swear," he said, "that which I swore heretofore—that Sir Foulke d'Oilly is a murspeckled and splashed with the gory stains therer, a liar, and a traitor—to be true, and on stunning effects of the blow, and saw how it any a previous slaughter, leaning against his body I will prove it; that I have not nor was with him, his enemy disarmed, and, as it will use any weapons save what the court allot seemed, at his power, then a hideous sardonic me; that I wear neither charm nor talisman; smile glared over his lurid features, and he and that, save in my good cause, my own right hand, and my trust in God, I have not whereon to rest my hope, here or hereafter. So may He help me, or desert me at my utmost need,

ay vestments in which they were on whose evangelists I am now sworn."

end the gay and gentle passages of Then the godfathers led the men up face to face, and, each grasping the other by the mail-

thee on this ground whereon we stand, or to force thee to cry "craven"—so help me God, and was the superb surcoats and armor in his most holy heaven!" And the appellee, "My uttermost will I do, hand rose slowly, till the guard of his dagger and mareschal, and the re-and more, if it may be, than my uttermost, to was below his own left, and his enemy's right,

The same difference was observed in the voices of the two men, as they again swore; for while the tones of Aradas had the steel-teman early hour, long before the first pered ring of the gallant game-cock's chalenge, the notes of Sir Foulke were liker to the quavering croak of the obscene raven.

Then the godfathers retired them, till they stood face to face, with thirty feet between ing; the roofs, the balconies, the them, and delivered to them the arms allotted by the court. These were-a dagger, with a broad, flat blade, eighteen inches in length, worn in a scabbard on the right side, behind gray old castle, already gray and the hip; an estoe, or short sword, of about two net-blade, hanging perpendicularly on the left thigh; and a huge two-handed broadsword, feet six, with a sharp point and grooved bayothigh; and a huge two-handed broadsword, an eye. And, as the dust subsided, there stood four feet from guard to point, with a hilt of Aradas, unmoved and calm as the angel of of the knights who were pitted in twenty inches, and a great leaden pommel to and part no more, until one should go counterbalance the weight of the blade in stri-

Their defensive arms were nearly similar. fated hour of ten, from the clear Each wore a habergeon, or closely fitting shirt to borrow the words of the greatest of linked mail, with mail sleeves, mail hose, poldrous, genonillieres, and shoes, of plated splents of steel; and flat-topped helmets, with avantailles and beavers. But the neck of Sir Foulke d'Oilly was defended by the new-fashthunder; and forth came a proud the high justiciary and his five assois, with their guard of halberdiers, to the lower rim of his beaver. And it was observed, that while d'Oilly wore his small heaterin thunder; and forth came a proud in the man should heat and the empty roar of popular applause. That was, indeed, the judgment of God; and when to the lower rim of his beaver. And it was observed, that while d'Oilly wore his small heaterin thunder; and forth came a proud in the man should heat and the empty roar of popular applause. That was, indeed, the judgment of God; and when the lower rim of his beaver. And it was observed, that while d'Oilly wore his small heaterin thunder; and forth came a proud in the man should heat and the empty roar of popular applause. That was, indeed, the judgment of God; and when the lower rim of his beaver. And it was observed, that while d'Oilly wore his small heaterin thunder; and forth came a proud in the man should heat and the empty roar of popular applause. That was, indeed, the judgment of God; and when the lower rim of his beaver. And it was observed, that while d'Oilly wore his small heaterin thunder; and forth came a proud in the man should heat and the man sh shaped shield on his left arm, de Ratcliffe peace before him. et more, whose pale and lovely threw his over his shoulder, suspended from ging on his arm, so firm and yet the chain which held it about his neck, so as to wo begone, excited general sympa- leave both his arms free to wield his mighty

batant, by word, deed, sign, or token, on pain passing sorrows, with great blessings tasted, and of infamy and mutilation." Then the Constable rose in his stirrups, and

"Let them go!" And the trumpet sounded, And the trumpet sounded.

"Let them go!"

And again the trumpet sounded.

"Let them go! Do your duty!"

And the Earl Mareschal answered,

"And may God defend the right!"

And, the third time, the trumpet sounded,
short and direful as the blast of doom; and at

that deadly summons, with brandished blades, both champions started forward; but the first bound of Sir Aradas carried him across two-

ed off by their armor of proof.

ed to his fathers in the riperess of his time,
It was soon observed that Sir Foulke d'Oilly's and he sleeps in a quiet churchyard in his pato frame auguries of the issue, from the thewes, the sinews, and the demeanor, of the two chambles to frame auguries of the issue, from the thewes, the sinews, and the demeanor, of the two chambles to frame auguries of the issue, from the thewes, the sinews, and the demeanor, of the two chambles to frame auguries of the issue, from the thewes, the sinews, and the demeanor, of the two chambles to frame auguries of the issue, from the thewes, the sinews, and the demeanor, of the two chambles to frame auguries of the issue, from the thewes, the sinews, and the demeanor, of the two chambles to frame auguries of the issue, from the thewes, the sinews, and the demeanor, of the two chambles to frame auguries of the issue, from the themes, the sinews, and the demeanor, of the two chambles to frame auguries of the issue, from the themes, the sinews, and the demeanor, of the two chambles to frame auguries of the issue, and the demeanor, of the two chambles to frame auguries of the issue, and the demeanor, of the two chambles to frame auguries of the issue, and the demeanor, of the two chambles to frame auguries of the issue, and the demeanor, of the two chambles to frame auguries of the issue, and the demeanor, of the two chambles to frame auguries of the issue augu versary could do to bear up against them. d'Oilly was by far the stronger-built and heavier man. He was exceedingly broad shouldered, were hearts and souls, whose ancient names and the great volume of his humeral muscles.

much against him as a wound.

At the end of half an hour, no material advantage had been gained; the mail of either champion was broken in many places, and the him, who grew up like olive branches round blood flowed, of both, from more wounds than Kenric's happy, honored board, with everything one; that of Aradas the more freely.

was the fresher and less fatigued of the two; while Sir Foulke was evidently short of wind, and hard pressed.

It was not the young man's game to give his enemy time—so, before half a minute had passed, he set on him again, with the same fiery vigor and energy as before. His opponent, however, saw that the long play was telling against him, and it appeared that he was determined to be in the same first and the same fi mined to bring the conflict to a close by sheer

Whether the young and gentle maiden, the was from the teatures of the that most took their auspices, and that the brought it down with a transverse cut to the right, which alighting, at the exact distance, full on the casque of Sir Aradas, dashed the Whirling his huge sword round his head, he The face of Sir Foulke d'Oilly was placid whole crown and vizor of the treacherous head-

and, despite the injunction of the herald, a

pless, for above one falcon matched with the earthly carrion vulture.

Nor was there less meaning or omen in the sive sawdust, Aradas plied his sword like a her's tail, dealing every blow at his neck Men paused to listen breathlessly; for among and the lacings of his casque, till fastening

The excitement of the people was ungovern-As each entered the lists, he was met by a able; they danced in their seats, they shouted, the people had awakened, and what could fet-

ath, there was any such illusion or enchant-tord Jesus, have received absolution and the at in the dreadful spectacle of an appeal to most holy sacrament of his body." a circling sweep, full on the jointed plates of The questions were then put to both, to be d'Oilly's new-fangled gorget. Rivet after rivet, t there were no gaily decorated lists, answered with the hand on the evangelists and plate after plate, gave way with a rending crash; his helmet rolled on the ground. He stood

But the same blow which unhelmed d'Oilly disarmed Aradas. His faithless sword was now, with only that weak, short estoe, that

cumbrous dagger, against the downright force of the resistless double-handed glaive? Backward he sprang ten paces. The glittering estoe was in his right, the short massive dagger in his left. He dropped on his right knee, crouching low, both arms hauging loose-

strode forward with his sword aloft, to triumph and to kill. When he was within six paces of his kneeling adversary, he paused, measured his distance—it was the precise length for one stride, one downright blow, on that bare head, which no earthly power could now shield

There was no cry now among the people only a hush. Every heart stood still in that

against it.

"Wilt die, or cry 'craven?'"
The eye of Aradas flashed lightning. Lower, he crouched lower, to the ground. His left prove my innocence upon thy body, on this eye. His right hand was drawn so far back, greeful body of men-at-arms and ground whereon we stand—so help me God in that the glittering point of the estoe only showed in front of his hip. Lower, yet lower, he crouched, almost in the attitude of the panther couchant for his spring. One stride made Sir Foulke d'Oilly forward : and down, like some tremendous engine, came

the sword-sweep-the gazers heard it whistle through the air as it descended. What followed, no eye could trace, no nen could describe. There was a wild cry, like that of a savage animal; a fiery leap through a cloud of whistling dust; a straight flash through the haze, like lightning.

One could see that somehow or other that slashing cut was glanced aside, but how, the

It was done in a second, in the twinkling of death, with his arms folded, and nothing in his hand save the dagger shivered to the guard. And at his feet lay his enemy, as if stricken by a thunderbolt, with his eyes wide open and his face to heaven, and the deadly estoe buried, to the gripe, in the throat that should lie no more, forever.

Pass we the victor's triumph, and the dead traitor's doom; pass we the lovers' meeting,

And all went merry as a marriage bell.

great gratitudes due, which make up the sum of the most innocent and blessed human life. And such was the life of Sir Aradas and the fair Guendolen de Ratcliffe. For dull must be his heart and imagination who cannot perceive, without being told in so many words, that, when the merry month of May brought verdure to the fields and foliage to the deep woods, and millions of bright wild flowers to

the dewy meads, and songs to the mating birds,

and gentler affections to the heart of man, the young champion led his nobly won bride to the altar, in the chapel of her sires, while the dales resounded with the songs of rejoicing girls, and the houest joy of a bold, free peasantry.

Sir Yvo de Taillebois lived long enough to both champious started forward, bound of Sir Aradas carried him across two-thirds of the space, and his sword fell like a thunderbolt on the casque of his antagonist, and bent him almost to his knee. But that was no strife to be ended at a blow; and they alosed, foot to foot, dealing at each other sweep-alosed, foot to foot, dealing at each oth

Kent sings his sweet, natural requiem. more blows than he received, and that each ceived the priceless boon of liberty, and the stroke missed by his enemy told almost as King's free pardon for his crimes, though he passed his declining days in the beautiful cotage nigh Kentmere, with his noble brother, his fair wife, and all the treasured little ones about But as they paused, perforce, to snatch a rose and bitter spirit, he lived and died a moment's breath, it was clear that Sir Aradas gloomy, disappointed, bitter, and bad-hearted man, a victim in some sort of the bad and cruel system, which had debased his soul more even

than it had degraded his body. Yet it was not in that accursed system, altogether; for the gallant and good Kenric, and his sweet wife, Edith the Fair, were living proofs, even, as the noble poet sings,

"That gentleness and love and tru. Prevail o'er angry wave and gust; and it was no less the spur that the dear spirit raised, than the grand force of that holiest Saxon institution, Trial by Jury, that raised Kenric from a Saxon Serf to be an English

For the National Era WATCHING THE SHADOWS

> BY BARRY BRAKE. Where the bright Brandywine Flows through the meadows Sat I with Madeline,

Watching the shadows Watching cloud-shadows, That swept o'er the plain. Now on the meadows. And now on the grain Ever the fair sunshine

Followed each darking. So," murmured Madeline And a voice to my barking Sings, 'Never despair.'

"The waters that flow by us Bid us be glad; And the swallows that go by us Virgings and; The breezes that blow us Are wanton with play,

Are happy as they For ever each darking Is followed by light, And all sounds to my harking Are hymns of delight." Low-voiced and lower,

Flowed on the Brandywine-Musical flower. Listened I closily, Answered then prosily,

Are these young dreams of thine

Glitter these gleams of thine;

Life as it goes, "Hardly will leave them Their richness of hue; Of morn's early dew By light is pursued, Over grain-field and mendow,

VII. The light is pursued, too, By shadows as fast; And sunshine subdued, too Rippled the Brandy wine. Blue eyes of Madeline Bright tears were filling.

But quick, like the sunlight Dispelling cloud shade, A smile gleam grew-bright In the eyes of the mand She trustingly laid, And her voice fell as bland As a lute while she said-

"Yes, night shade may banish The light from the plain, But night shade must vanish And though victor shadows May triumph, and will, Yet the blooms in the meadows Are odorous still.

The river will flow Unhindered and brave All grasses will grow And all tree-boughs will wave And the stars will be keepers O'er dew-begemmed leaves Whose jewels lure thieves.

So, let the night thicken. The might brings a charm And morning will quicken To life rich and warm The grains and the flowers; And birds will be loud, Each thrush in its bower Each lark in its cloud.

But here hushed the speaker And blushed like the glow In the curve of a beaker And her eyes fell to Brandy wine

For the National Era. BELL SMITH ABROAD. · XXI.-THE CATACOMBS. Paris, March, 1855.

Some time in the year of 1774, a large house in what is now known as the Latin Quarter, then the most fashionable part of Paris, suddenly fell to the ground. The house did not fall upon its ramates like one shaken by an earthquake, or overthrown by a great wind, but seemed to have crumbled into the very earth, and, in place of a heap of ruins, presented almost a cavity. This event created intense terror, but this terror was infinitely augmented when another and another huge house disappeared in the like manner, The Government, at that time exclusively ngaged in hunting down offending authors of epigrams pointed at Du Barry and Louis the Well-Beloved, turned its attention to discoverng, if possible, what subterranean power was

rallowing up the houses of Paris. I bout this time another circumstance assist an directing their pursuit. Paris was beset robbers, smugglers, and political offenders. who seemed to possess the power of disappear ng at will, and thereby setting at defiance the wrath of offended law. An offender would be tracked to his abode, the house immediately surrounded, but, on breaking in and searching the premises, the bird would be gone, and the police painfully impressed with a belief in witchraft. At last, however, through the agency of gold, three of the most noted offenders were secured. Subjected to hideous toftures, a confession was wrung from one, that threw light upon the strange fact of fallen houses and disppearing thieves. The execution of these three men is so graphically told by Monsieur Berthet, a his "Catacombs of Paris," and gives such a picture of the times when "Louis the Well-Be-oved" held sway in France, that I cannot forbear translating it for your readers.

Eight in the morning had just ceased ringing rout the clock of the Palace of Justice. One of those thin transparent fogs, rising from the Seive of a September morning, enveloped the towers of the Grand Chatelet, the clock of Saint Jean en Grève, and the pointed roofs of Hotel de Ville. The Place de Grève had not then the of which were in line, and overhanging stories, while remaining in one place, he at least while the pavement was broken and dirty. The would be in the route best known to the guides.

Sages; while remaining in one place, he at least command the homage of every nation on earth.

But impediments do stand in the way. streats in the neighborhood were narrow, sombre, and unwholesome. In fact, it was yet the old and melancholy Greve of the middle agesa place historically filled with souvenirs, but

souvenirs cruel, cold, and bloody.

This day in particular the Greve had an exprestion dark and sinister. Facing the Hotel de Ville, in the centre of the place, was a hideous scaffold. One saw the upright posts sup- itself. porting a heavy beam, from which hung, tremprepared. It was not the scaffold, nor the cords, nor the expressive noose, that chilled the blood, In his groping he found, as he thought, the galand made the heart sick. On the ground was lery by which they passed out, and he turned This was the wheel, the last invention of cruel

privileged classes, the lords and ladies of the court, were also there. In place, however, of

true haracter of the attraction.

with two accomplices, about whose career had so long hung a fearful mystery. Their various pressive, more profound than before. Fate seemdeeds, greatly exaggerated, were not more sured against him; yet, from the appearance of the within a name, like the Know Nothings, has prising than those of ordinary occurrence com-ing to light each day; but their successful con-few moments before. What signified that? They ing to light each day; but their successful concealments, their sudden appearance and as such den escapes, brought to belief almost the witch eraft of old. But gold has a power superior craft of old. But gold has a power superior. They might have heard him.

They might each day; but their successful concealments, their sudden appearance and as such and not encountered him—probably had not work for this Order. They talk of uniting the Anti-Papal and Anti-Slavery vote, and electing a President. Are we to understand that this are reason to believe, are at work for this Order. They talk of uniting the Anti-Papal and Anti-Slavery vote, and electing a President. Are we to understand that this concealments, their sudden appearance and as such as a power superior. even to witchcraft—and now, slowly making its He did so now. Throwing his entire voice into secret society is to act, politically, independent way through the tumultuous crowd like a vessel one effort, he uttered a fearful cry, that rang of any Anti-Slavery or Republican party, which way through the thinditable creations with out dismally along the passages, and came back does not see fit to proscribe any religious sect? its victims bound hand and foot between.

the wheel," and the subsequent death. But, his ears again and again, with such fearful perhaving introduced this well-written account, as tinacity, "Am I to die in this manner?" He come in conflict with these headless Orders, the right triumph! an artist gives an overture to a drama, let me heard again the water dripping in regular beats, whose weapons are concealed, and whose policy say, in connecting it, that the confession of one of these wretched criminals led to an investigation of the subterranean chambers then under ing out a measure for the life of men. He was of Slavery with honest and Democratic opennearly one-third of Paris. Evidently quarries startled to hear the sound of the organ and ness, or should they meet with masks, and in from which almost in its infancy Paris had may church music—deep, heavy, and indistinet—terials for building—subsequently used as places for burial—the entrances had been gradually built over or destroyed, until the existence of built over or destroyed, until the existence of listening to the divine music, little dreaming of the petty partisan strifes to which this great. them became in the public mind a matter of the suffering and death far down in the black nation descends, and observe the paltry means present position of their Order on the great doubt and tradition, and the events to which chambers beneath them. He thought of the we seize on to accomplish paltry ends, how issue. They find that within the Order they we have alluded called the attention of authorities to their existence. That vast and noisome laugh of children, hum of men, and goasiping of and sanctified with their blood! What is a Labor, and that the Order, in its official action, chambers connected by galleries existed under women. The companions who had accompathe densely-populated and closely-built district nied him had probably returned to their homes. of St. Germain, under such huge piles as St. Sulpice, Pantheon, and the Palace of the Lux
From this his mind wandered to other scenes, no masked champions, no secret councils, no the Baltimore platforms of 1852. To save the Know Nothings from this apparatus is the embourg, was a fact to make one wonder—and far, far away over the wide Atlantic—scenes of many a time, while living in Place St. Sulpice, his childhood. He saw once more the Sciota my mind went down into the darksome regions, flowing sunnily away, now widening into a lake -

and alwest merry as a serior believe for the first time, noticed general sympatic statistics, and the statistics of the first time, noticed and the first constitution of the first time, noticed and the first constitution of the first constitution of the first constitution of the first time, noticed and first statistics, and the first constitution of the fir

ges crossed or led from this, and our friend had seen their lost comrade but a minute before, concerned have, I am confident, but little sym was fast coming to the conclusion that these narrow burrows in the earth were anything but the grand excavations he had been taught to expect, when they came suddenly upon a huge hamber hewn from the solid rock. The guide greater part of his suffering would have been ent time, to prove this. What led to the formait a number of torches, and, distributing them saved him. But after carefully retracing their tion of the Republican party? Was it the spirit among the rocks, called upon the party to mark the effect. The glare of light upon the white tooks, reflected by the lofty ceiling, sustained by hoge pillars of masonry, and dashing with la shing starts towards the gloomy recesses, and separated. yet gloomier entrances, as if attempting to pen-etrate and drive back the night—had certainly very startling effect.

of these chambers, the mysterious use assigned them in ages gone by, the fact that, above, a great city rung out its busy life—all served to nowever magnificent, could call into existence.

Our friend wished to do in the Catacombs as he often had done during a summer's residence near the Mammoth Cave-watch the effect of lights leaving him, so as from a good view to secure a sketch of the strange interior. He seated himself without speaking to the party that went on, not noticing his movement. groupings and lights, as the company left him, were certainly striking, and worth the arrangethe huge chamber, he rose to follow, when their our ally; and Lafavette, his great heart throbleries-so many of which cross and re-cross the would return that way-his next, that, missing destiny. She has won respect and confidence, him, they would retrace their steps in his search. So, senting himself, he counted the weary min-

Hours seemed wearing away. Once he thought rollify, tumultuous crowd. The gamins of Paris, perc ed on sheds, balconies, and trees, screamed shriky at each other. The pedlers, then more shriky at each other. The pedlers, then more num rous than now, threaded the crowd, giving of water from which he drank—and pausing the country.

Many of our true and tried friends consented their identity, nestated, evaded, equivocated—and all for what? To prevent foreigners from getting all the offices, and ruining the country.

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And, still further, there are at the present. attendance to their strange appeals. A singer, every few moments to catch the sound of return- to let the Anti-Slavery cause work its way alone, time some twenty papers in the State that fa-

enturies before.

of satisfaction. Several curious nobles, unable intense darkness, seemed to weigh upon his Our newspapers have forgotten their old devo- the Republican ticket at the last election in to secure windows, had driven their equipages far into the crowd, and sat yawning, while their footmen scowled insolently at the jeering crowd. Since the death of La Brinvilliers, of which Madame de Sevigné, crowded upon the street, polar sea, searching for lost comrades, ever Schiller and Goethe, or among the moors of unanimously, voted the Democratic or could see but the head, since the execution of came unexpectedly upon traces of their friends, poor Ireland. Dam'en, which a young and beautiful duchess of descr' bed with such evident delight—never had be used to be such as a paper which in time past has done used to be used the place of Hotel de Ville witnessed so numer-ous and brilliant an assembly.

friend seized upon this brand. The company had evidently passed that way. Would they re-who was murdered in his own groggery, in a It ras not a poisoner in the person of a marquis, are yet a regicide-devote, that called this immease crowd from their various homes to witness a brutal death, but a common robber ond to light the pillars, the jutting rocks and dark has it come at last." I stop without translating the graphic account ed. He again sat down, resting his head upon dom, and are disposed to stand on that issue, midnight deliberations and the history and h of the terrible torture known as "breaking on bis hands; he heard the question ringing in and hattle for it with undivided zeal, till Sla- midnight deliherations, and the bitter and un-

covered with forest trees. Ah! how beautiful; position to speak intelligently.—Ed. Era. It had been our continued intention to visit how near and dear all seem to him! Or he saw the "Catacombs," but the curiosity was something the winds whispered among bending trees, and what allayed by a fearful picture of a few hours' the winds whispered among bending trees, and I have to-day, for the first time, noticed in

It is a singular fact that one of the company assemble in their sovereign capa who had denied at first, and felt satisfied in his demn the "great wrong which had been perpedenial, that Mr. W. was one of the party-after trated," and to take such measures as To one who had explored the Mammoth Cave they had separated, suddenly remembered a little deemed proper to prevent a recurrence of such in Kentucky, had traversed great fields of night, crossed lakes, and heard the mysterious rush of unseen rivers, and watched the long line of red lights descending precipices, this view of the but with like success. As the night wore on, and no tidings of the lost could be had, he felt "paupers and convicts from foreign lands." It But humanity throws an interest around objects so certain of the terrible fact that he could not nature cannot approach. The doa'stful origin sleep, and at last hastened to the proper authorization affuence of the Pope." It lisped not a syllable create an awe no mere exhibition of nature, covered and conveyed to a place where he could gether. They met, not to make war upon men

People's Department.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, March 28, 1855. In one of the darkest hours of the Revolument. As they approached the further end of aid. Louis XVI, a Catholic sovereign, became organization was, as before intimated, the resudden disappearance into one of the low gal- bing with love for our cause, devoted his coun- Compromise. sels and his blood to its service. Time passes. principal passage—alarmed him, and he hastened forward, only in the darkness that immediately sets and his officed to the service. She grows are sets and his officed to the service. She grows ering of Freemen? Was there any cry of "forward, only in the darkness that immediately sets and his officed to the service. She grows ering of Freemen? Was there any cry of "forward, only in the darkness that immediately sets and his officed to the service. She grows ering of Freemen? Was there any cry of "forward, only in the darkness that immediately sets and his officed to the service. ately followed, to stumble over a pile of stones. every civilized court in the world. She counts any modification of our naturalization laws de Herose, and, again hastening forward, ran against her sons by millions, and her acres of mountain | manded? any manifesto against men not of na a pillar, and fell back stunned and bleeding. and plain grow too fast to be counted. Never tive birth? No, not a word. But there was He gained his feet, and hesitated. His first was a nation with so brilliant a future; never something said about Slavery; there was some thought was, that the party with their guide a people with so many promises of a glorious talk about that gigantic power which has so where nations of greater age and renown seek there were some resolutions passed touching de Ville. The Place de Grève had not then the regidarity and beauty of to-day—surrounded He could only grope his way in blind darkness, of her own creating, opposes the swift coming of meaning and full of truth, and which the cld houses with gables to the street, no three though unknown and perhaps unexplored pas- of that day when the American Republic may people sanctioned and approved at the ballot But impediments do stand in the way. The decidedly an Anti-Slavery meeting; it was, too, true patriotism, the deeply-seated philanthropy an American meeting; but it was far from be utes, that seemed hours, in that dreary waiting. of the country have toiled day and night for ing a Know Nothing meeting-very far from Indistinct remembrance of stories told him of persons who had disappeared and perished in these fearful depths, came up to make more unbearable his terrible position. There was no sound of life, save from the slow dropping of water, that seemed the very voice of solitude the nation. You know with what ardor the free States wheeled one after another into line, the so-called Know Nothing organization.

bling in the chill wind, three cords with nooses he heard the sounds of steps, and, starting up, prepared. It was not the scaffold, nor the cords, he felt his way along—hastening to meet them. slave States, or rather the Slave Power, might canvass, and the Republican ticket prevailed. bring against them. But in a night, in an a mysterious instrument, shaped something like a wheel, against which leaned an iron bar, accompanied by chains and cords, and on which hour when no other danger threatened, the and Legislature elected? Any Know Nothing one saw heavy dark stains by former torture. companions had vanished—but, after blindly ling about the institutions of the country, no foreigners were not assailed, and Native Ameripushing on, he became convinced, from the more contests between Freedom and Slavery; canism received not a particle of "aid and e traversed, that he had missed his but down with the foreigners! up with the na-An audience was not wanting for this heart | way, and was indeed lost. It required but a tives! were the shouts which strained the lungs less spectacle. The execution would not take moment to realize his position; and the cold of impulsive folly. In an hour which called Slavery received all necessary and proper atplace for hours later, yet the place was filled to perspiration started from every pore as he did over owing—an overflowing that rolled back into so. What days might elapse before, in this ened, when none existed, except what political ed, instructing the men who then represented neig boring streets quite out of view, where the crow lamused itself by cries, songs, brutal jests, found—what suffering, what a death, seemed when the winds were slumbering and the waters sented, when the winds were slumbering and the waters sented, when the winds were slumbering and the waters sented, when the winds were slumbering and the waters sented, when the winds were slumbering and the waters sented, when the winds were slumbering and the waters sented, when the winds were slumbering and the waters and tights. The soldiers of the Prevost, with inevitable! There was no utility now in remaintheif grand Latons, with difficulty opened a way for the officers, while the guard about the scaffold ould scarce keep their ranks against the laton of the State was passed to protect the people calm, a great people rushed from their old and tried crafts, cast off their scarred and trusty jails of the State were closed against the adarmor, hid themselves behind masks and disarmor, hid themselves behind

victory, what is a triumph, if no moral pur- utterly ignores and suppresses the agitation of pose, if no humanity, if no virtue, sanctify the Slavery question. This is playing as diveiled ballot-boxes.

THINGS IN MICHIGAN. LANSING, MICH., March 28, 1855.

stay in them, given by our talented artist, Mr. wild birds sang, and two lovely eyes looked long, the Era of the 13th inst., a communication Platform of Principles of the Know Somethings.

who were so unfortunate as to have been born beneath the skies of a foreign land; they met

to consider the deeds of our own countrymen, of native-born American citizens. It was in view of the long list of aggressions erpetrated upon the people of this Union, by the pro-slavery men of the South and their docile servants of the North, that the freemen of Michigan assembled and organized the Repeal of the prohibitory clause of the Missouri

And what was the action of that great gath long governed the nation with an iron rod; and box in a very emphatic manuer. It was very

Well, how stood matters in the Legislature?

staticed on a corner, charmed the cars of a ing steps—yet pausing in vain—for around him for the "Supreme Order of the Star Spangled | vor the Republican organization, most of them wide circle by a song which he accompanied on reigned the stillness of the tomb. The tomb, Banner" called them to the higher and holier being its bold and out-spoken advocates and a cricked violin. One could have said that it indeed-for, whatever was the origin of these duty of crushing out foreigners. And so, by supporters. And there is but one that comes was market, a fete, or fair, but for the giant huge excavations, they had been used as burial-places—and every few moments, as he felt his tions, they plotted in their secret councils to and, strange to say, that is and has been a way, his hand resting upon a smooth stone, he blot all knowledge of national sins, and to kin- Democratic, or, as your correspondent has it, But it was not only the bourgeoise, and mass of common people, who invaded the Grève. The consigned to this fearful resting-place perhaps is alousies. Oh! this clannishness, this paltry international and religious internationa privileged classes, the lords and ladies of the court, were also there. In place, however, of crowding the pave, they occupied reserved seats at windows of houses convenient, the balconies of Hetel de Ville, and even the roofs of neighboring buildings. On every side, gay gentlemen, Derpair, Seating himself, his hearing keenly alive to every sound, he tried to rest—tried to be calm—tried to believe that in a few more also there. In place, however, of thouses convenient, the balconies from excessive mental excitement—and with it the dejection that said—Despair. Seating himself, his hearing keenly alive to every sound, he tried to rest—tried to be calm—tried to believe that in a few more arts he would eater the same in fact, and convenient, and "trying to divide the party appears to have gone over to then, with what submissiveness do we victory, and with what arrogance they claim every victory, and with what submissiveness do we victor pandering to the vilest of popular passions, by refers as throwing cold water on the Republidressed, advanced their powdered heads to catch that in a few moments he would catch the sound on their armor for a good fight, and con- the latter, party should be found among the a bett-r view, or nod one to the other. The court reemed to be enjoying a reception in place de Greve. Window saluted window with smiles

Nothings, who voted the Republican ticket,

would have voted just as they did vote, had they not been connected with the first-named In fact, it is all moonshine for a man to be lieve that Republicanism and Know Nothing ism in Michigan are the same. And I give you my word for it, Mr. Editor, that you can out giving offence to a great majority of the Republicans of Michigan. We, the Republicans, fight openly against a great and growing dark, against an imaginary foe. to all white, native-born Americans. We trust

Yours, for Freedom,

The primary object of the Know Something Know Nothings from this quagmire, is the chief aim of the Know Somethings. In answer to grope blindly among the dead of a fogotten now slumbering appearently under huge banks The following letter is from one who is in a directed that the Platform of the Order, with certain directions and explanations, be made public. The following is the Circular.